

Torrance, California  
April 23, 1946

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Tuesday, April 23, 1946 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. Absent: Councilmen: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held April 9, 1946 and of Adjourned Regular Meetings held April 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16, 1946 be approved as written. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor Sherfey announced that the appointment of committees was in order, and appointed committees as follows, after stating that the City Council had met informally and agreed upon the following appointments:

FINANCE

G. V. Powell	J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr. Chairman	A. L. Jackson
(Alternates: C. M. Gilbert and Wm. H. Tolson)		

PARK AND RECREATION

A. L. Jackson	C. M. Gilbert Chairman	Wm. H. Tolson
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INSPECTION, AUDITORIUM, TRANSPORTATION  
AND PUBLIC LIBRARY

G. V. Powell	Wm. H. Tolson Chairman	C. M. Gilbert
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POLICE AND FIRE

J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr.	G. V. Powell Chairman	Wm. H. Tolson
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STREET, SEWER AND GARBAGE

Wm. H. Tolson	A. L. Jackson Chairman	C. M. Gilbert
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WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from J. Hugh Sherfey, Jr., tendering his resignation from the City Planning Commission due to the fact that, at the recent General Municipal Election, he was one of the successful candidates for the office of City Councilman.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the resignation be accepted by the City Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. and Mrs. Orson Oliver, 2614 Eldorado Street, protesting any proposal which might be presented to put an alley through Tract 4070, claiming that such an alley would be of benefit to a small minority of property owners, only.

Councilman Gilbert advised that he is one of the property owners referred to by the writer of the letter who would assertedly benefit by the alley, and stated that the matter had gone no further than an inquiry by him, through the Engineering Department, as to procedure for putting through new alleys. He said that to date he has not had time to contact many of the property owners relative to this proposal, but that he felt confident all the property owners would favor the alley with the exception of one owner. He stated that he had inquired as to the procedure for the reason that, since there is no alley in the tract, residents are compelled to dispose of all rubbish, cans and garbage by placing it on the street in the front of their homes.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the communication be filed until such time as it can be determined whether or not a majority of the property owners favor the alley, and for future reference. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Mr. G. W. Black, 2416 Gramercy Avenue, enclosing Building Permit No. 5805, issued by the City of Torrance December 14, 1945, and Building Permit No. 5806, issued December 14, 1945, and requesting refund of the \$14.00 fees for these permits due to the fact that difficulties he had encountered in obtaining building materials had altered his plans to build a house.

Councilman Tolson moved that the refund be made as requested. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Augusto Forgie, protesting frequent changes in polling places, and asking the Council to establish permanent polling places.

Clerk Bartlett explained that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors establishes precinct boundaries, approves polling places, and appoints election officers, which precludes the possibility of the City Council of the City of Torrance acting in this matter of stabilizing polling places.

A communication was read from Paul Quigley, enclosing Business License No. 583, issued March 14, 1946, and requesting refund of unused portion of same, advising that he had sold his business.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Clerk be authorized to refund the unused portion of Business License No. 582 issued to Paul Quigley for transacting the business of a riding academy. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from North Torrance Improvement Association, protesting the installation of an airport by Community Airports Corporation, or any one else, in North Torrance or adjacent territory, and giving reasons therefor, and protesting granting of a variance to Community Airports to allow construction of certain additional buildings upon the proposed airport site, and requesting that the Zone Variance, designated as Case No. 37 by the Planning Commission, be denied.

Clerk Bartlett advised that a similar letter protesting installation of an airport in North Torrance had been received from the Perry School Board of Directors.

Engineer Jain gave, verbally, upon request by Mayor Sherfey, an outline of action taken to date by the Planning Commission in connection with Case No. 37, after which Clerk Bartlett read a communication from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, Torrance City Planning Commission, advising that the Planning Commission at a Regular Adjourned Meeting held April 16, 1946, considered the Petition for Variance and Conditional Permit of Community Airports, Incorporated, requesting permission to construct certain additional buildings upon their airport property at Redondo Beach Boulevard and Prairie Avenue. A list of the proposed buildings was set forth.

It was advised that, since Petitions bearing the names of 797 residents of the area were presented, all protesting the Airport and facilities, the Planning Commission denied the Petition for Variance for the additional buildings and recommended that the City Council concur in this action.

It was advised that Mr. McCall, City Attorney, had been requested to submit a written opinion on May 7, 1946 as to "what constitutes an airport" and for what uses the Building Department could issue building permits in order to comply with Land Use Ordinance No. 316, Section 4, Subsection A-5.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Council concur in the action of the Planning Commission. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Bill Jackson, Captain, Tartar Knights, Torrance High School, requesting use of the Civic Auditorium on the evening of May 2, 1946 for a Knight Conclave, a function which is held once each semester at one of the five schools in the Marine League and in which all the schools in the League participate.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be granted, subject to approval of the Building Committee, and provided the date is unreserved. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, requesting use of the Civic Auditorium on the evening of June 22, 1946, for a talent program for the purpose of raising money for the Church Building Fund, and the afternoons of June 21 and 22, 1946 for rehearsal.

Councilman Gilbert requested time in which to contact the Teen-Agers, since the date requested falls on the date reserved for this group. He said he would like to determine whether or not the group will act favorably toward relinquishing the building this one night. The Council agreed to this suggestion and no formal action was taken.

A communication was read from Edgar S. (Ted) Frenger, requesting use of City equipment to level off a 49' x 138' lot located on the South East corner of Arlington and Border Avenues (across Border Avenue from the Columbia Steel Company), and permission to break the curb for an entrance to said lot from Border Avenue, in order that said lot may be used for a parking lot to accommodate employees of the Columbia Steel Company and to relieve the congested parking condition now existing. It was advised that the writer will pay for having a surface material placed on the lot if surface material is required.

Engineer Jain advised that the zoning ordinance requires a surface material to be placed on parking lots to control dust, and added that, so far as the request for use of City equipment to level the lot is concerned, he had not felt he could authorize this without Councilmanic approval and action.

Councilman Tolson pointed out that, although the plan of making the property available as a much needed parking lot is excellent, he would question the advisability of using City equipment to level same, inasmuch as this would invite many similar requests which the City would be unable to grant with limited manpower and equipment. Councilman Powell stated that he is in full accord with comments made by Councilman Tolson.

Engineer Jain, upon referring to a map of the vicinity above-mentioned, advised that the writer had undoubtedly meant the South West corner rather than the South East corner, since there is no South East corner which is unimproved property.

After some further discussion, Councilman Tolson moved that the request of Mr. Frenger for use of City equipment to level the lot which he proposes to make available as a parking lot be denied, and that the request for permission to break the curb for an entrance to the lot from Border Avenue be granted, and that the City Engineer be authorized to issue a permit for the latter. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Leung N. Gan, by May W. Mah, requesting permission to install a neon sign for the Ding How Cafe, 1652 Cabrillo Avenue, suspended from the Southwest corner of the Torrance Hotel (at the corner of Carson and Cabrillo Streets), in accordance with a sketch attached. It was advised that present plans are to open the cafe about May 15, 1946.

Engineer Jain advised that the proposed sign is oversize but that, if properly designed and hung, he could see no objection to allowing it.

Mayor Tolson moved that the request be granted provided the applicants design and hang the sign in accordance with the City Engineer's specifications. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, expressing a desire to meet jointly with members of the City Council for the purpose of informally discussing matters of importance to the City and to ascertain councilmanic views in order that mutual efforts of the Chamber and the Council in behalf of community needs and development may be better coordinated, and extending an invitation to the City Council to attend such a meeting April 29, 1946, 7:00 P.M. at the Chamber Offices.

The Council acknowledged the invitation, with no formal action being necessary, and with Councilman Powell commenting that the seat of business of the City Council is the Council Chamber at which place he is willing at all times to confer with anyone interested in City Government and community development, which comment he directed to the Chamber of Commerce.

A communication was read from Mrs. Evelyn L. Carr, Chairman, Torrance Parents Association, calling attention of the new City Administration to the pending matter of the proposed Charter form of government for the City, with the formation of a separate school district in Torrance in mind. It was advised that the matter of the Charter had been referred to Attorney McCall some time ago, and that it is believed by the writer that he is preparing a charter.

Attorney McCall advised that the charter question had been referred to him for legal opinion as to whether or not it could be inaugurated, and added that he had rendered an oral opinion to the effect that the Council could inaugurate a proceeding to adopt a Charter. He said that, all those with whom he had discussed the matter expressed a desire that a sample charter should be studied which type of document he is engaged in preparing at the present time and which he hopes to have completed at an early date.

A communication was read from Mr. I. J. Hallanger, requesting permission to place a 12 x 12 ft. building, constructed entirely of 14-gauge steel plate and glass, on Lot 21, Block 7, Torrance Tract, for use as a Real Estate office, and submitting a photograph of the type of building referred to.

He advised that the lot is 30 feet wide, and that the building will occupy 12 feet, leaving an intervening distance of 18 feet to the adjoining property line instead of the 20 feet required by the Code under which the City operates.

Engineer Jain recommended that, since the building is constructed of steel plate and glass, and in view of the fact that a brick building is being constructed on the adjoining property, reducing the hazard of fire to a minimum, and since the intervening distance to the adjoining property line is only two feet short of the distance required by the Code in Fire Zone No. 1, in which fire zone the property is located, Mr. Hallanger's request be granted on a temporary basis, until such time as the building might create a hazard, for the specific use as set forth above, i.e., for use as a Real Estate office. Mr. Jain advised that he understands Mr. Hallanger leases the property, and that, any time construction of a permanent building might be started, he would be required to vacate the property and move his building, which terms, he said, Mr. Hallanger understands.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be granted on a temporary basis on the terms set forth above by Engineer Jain. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.



A communication was read from Loyal Order of Moose, Torrance Lodge No. 785, requesting use of the City Park and Ball Ground on Monday, September 2, 1946 for a mammoth picnic to be sponsored by the Local Lodge for the pleasure of children and adults alike.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request be referred to Mr. Dale Riley, Superintendent of the Recreation Department, for recommendation. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Torrance Area Projects, advising that this non-profit corporation was formed for the primary purpose of carrying out plans and details of a mammoth five-day celebration from July 3 to July 7, 1946, inclusive, to welcome back the Veterans of World War II, which event is to be an annual celebration in the future.

A list of events included in the plan, numbering fourteen, was set forth, each event named being a large scale undertaking in itself.

It was requested that, in view of the significance of this 5-day event, the City subsidize the preliminary expense of same in the amount of \$2500.00, which will be repaid if practicable, from which disbursements will be made for necessary expense such as postage, printing, mimeographing, telephone, stenographic services, typewriter rental, advertising and publicity and general promotion.

Councilman Gilbert stated that, when the plan was originally drafted, some question had been brought up as to who would sponsor the undertaking, financially, with the Veterans of Foreign Wars volunteering to underwrite the scheme up to \$1,000.00. He suggested referring the matter to the Council for study and recommendation at an early date.

Councilman Powell asked Councilman Gilbert for the names of members of the committee, Councilman Gilbert replying that he would gladly furnish a written list of same.

Councilman Powell said he favored doing everything possible in the way of showing appreciation to the young men of the City who served their Country so well in the recent world conflict, but said he would not favor staging a celebration of this kind and charging the Veterans for entrance to the various events scheduled.

Mayor Tolson replied that the tentative plan at present is to hold a luncheon at the Civic Auditorium for the Veterans, and to issue a pass to each and every Torrance Veteran who registers, which will entitle him, and probably one person accompanying him, to free entry to all the scheduled events. All in all, he continued, it appears to be a very noteworthy venture; and added that, since there is a tremendous amount of preliminary work to be done, and since time is limited, he would favor seeing the Council act upon this matter at this time in order that the work may get under way, with the full assurance of financial support. He said there is no thought of issuing a check outright to anyone for this purpose, but, rather, that the bills will be presented to the City for payment upon proper authorization. Even though it is felt the undertaking will probably be successful enough to reimburse the City for assistance given, he said, outlay of much money must be made before the celebration itself takes place for necessary advertising, publicity and other items above set forth.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City of Torrance agree to underwrite the five-day celebration, July 3 to July 7, 1946, inclusive, plans of which have been undertaken by Torrance Area Projects, Incorporated, and details of which are set forth in the communication above referred to, to welcome home the Veterans of World War II, in the amount of \$2500.00, invoices to be presented to the City for payment as received and properly authorized for payment, with the understanding that, if practicable, the City of Torrance will be reimbursed from proceeds of the celebration. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Mr. C. J. Crabtree, 3703 Easy Avenue, Long Beach, advising that, on March 11, 1946, he had been

granted a probationary period of one month to salvage waste paper on the premises of the City Dump, which undertaking had not been entirely successful as it had been found there was insufficient waste to merit full time occupation with antiquated waste baling machinery.

He expressed appreciation for cooperation extended by the City and its officials, and stated that he plans to appear again before the City Council in the near future regarding disposal of material going into the City Dump. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, relative to instructions given him at the April 2, 1946 meeting to estimate costs of installing sidewalks and curbs on Fern Avenue from Torrance Boulevard to Carson Street, resulting from a petition bearing 26 signatures having been presented requesting this improvement.

Engineer Jain requested that, if agreeable, he be allowed to withhold the estimate for Fern Avenue, as several other property owners in the area west of Crenshaw Boulevard have requested this same information for their particular streets. Therefore, he said, his office has prepared petitions for circulation upon each street west of Crenshaw Boulevard for approval of installation of paving, curbs, gutters, sidewalks and street lights. If the results of the petitions indicate sufficient interest in this improvement, he said, an assessment district could be made of the entire area thereby reducing the cost considerably to each property owner.

In connection with the Fern Avenue estimate, he stated that he had noted that not all the signers are property owners, and no designation was made as to what property they are interested in.

Councilman Gilbert commented that the petitions are being circulated, and are being given favorable reception by the property owners who are interested in making the area into a fine residential section.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the request of Engineer Jain that he be allowed to withhold the estimate of costs of installing sidewalks and curbs on Fern Avenue from Torrance Boulevard to Carson Street until the balance of the petitions are brought in, be granted. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, attaching a proposal from Mr. P. I. Haddan, Jr. Secretary of Haddan, Inc., whereby he proposes to perform all lot cleaning within the City of Torrance at certain specified unit costs. Engineer Jain advised that the work consists of the complete detail of setting up the bookkeeping system, billing of the property owners, posting of the lots and disc harrowing all vacant property within the City.

Method proposed, he added, would cost the owner of an average lot, 50' x 140', \$4.75; or a lot 50' x 150' \$5.00. Whenever any single piece of property exceeds a charge of \$10.00 for the disc harrowing, the total charge will be \$11.25 per acre, or for any portion thereof.

Engineer Jain recommended that the proposal and method of handling this work be adopted, if legal, and that Mr. Haddan be granted a contract to handle the balance of the work and be given authority to set up the necessary bookkeeping system and do all the billing and collecting at no cost to the City.

In the ensuing lengthy discussion, Engineer Jain advised that payments by the property owners for this service would be made directly to the City of Torrance, and the City would, in turn, make payments to Mr. Haddan. He pointed out that, by this method, the City would be out no funds whatsoever, and that the work would undoubtedly be performed much more systematically and easily than the City has done it for the past few years. He said that this work has been a burden, inasmuch as it involved using the entire Street Department personnel and equipment to burn the weeds from the vacant property, which time, being the summer months so ideally adapted to street work, is lost so far as street work is concerned.

Attorney McCall stated that Mr. Haddan had conferred with him relative to this matter, and that, upon being told by Mr. McCall that he would check the legality of the method, had volunteered to furnish Mr. McCall with legal opinions of other reputable City

Attorneys in which cities the plan is in progress. To date, however, Mr. McCall said, he has not brought in the opinion or opinions. He said that he believed Mr. Haddan had in mind a permit rather than a contract to do this work.

Councilman Powell made a few remarks bearing on the subject, indicating that he would favor seeing the City put a plan into operation to perform this work. Engineer Jain advised that this would involve establishing an entire staff to handle the work, since there is a great deal of office work involved, and which the present staff cannot possibly handle in addition to all the regular work. He again pointed out that the general idea is to try to get the work done without disrupting the entire program of the Street Department in order that the more favorable weather may be taken advantage of for important street improvement projects.

Councilman Tolson stated that he would favor the contract method, since it will not cost the City anything, and will relieve the Street Department of this responsibility.

After some further discussion, during which posting of the property, bond to be furnished by the prospective contractor, and other incidental matters in connection with the subject were mentioned, Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Engineer and City Attorney be authorized to contact Mr. Haddan for any additional details necessary, and present a recommendation to the City Council for action at a subsequent meeting. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, Torrance City Planning Commission, advising that the Planning Commission, at a meeting held April 16, 1946, discussed the fee for checking of subdivision maps which should be charged to subdividers, and which should be incorporated in the subdivision ordinance now being prepared.

Mr. Jain advised that it was recommended by the Commission that the fee to be charged by the City for checking of Tentative and Final Maps shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each Tract Map, plus twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per lot for each lot shown upon the Subdivision Map. An additional amount of twenty-five cents (\$0.25) shall be charged for each lot added after the original Tentative Map is approved unless the additional lots are added at the request of the City.

Engineer Jain advised further that the City has a contract with the County to handle the balance of checking of Subdivision maps for which the County charges a fee directly to the subdivider, and which is not included in the above schedule of fees to the City.

Councilman Tolson moved that the recommendation of the Planning Commission in connection with fees to be charged by the City for checking subdivision maps be accepted in accordance with details set forth above. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer and Secretary for Torrance City Planning Commission, recommending that the Council authorize the City Attorney to incorporate Land Use Ordinance No. 316 and the Amendments to same to date, including the 31 amendments recently adopted, in one Ordinance and have the Ordinance and amendments printed in book form, and that the policy of having the Land Use Ordinance re-printed every five years be initiated and followed in the future. Mr. Jain advised that the Planning Commission had recommended this procedure.

Councilman Tolson moved that the recommendation of the Planning Commission in connection with re-printing Land Use Ordinance No. 316 with all amendments to date in book form, and re-printing of the Land Use Ordinance every five years be accepted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary, Torrance City Planning Commission, advising that, at a meeting of the Commission held April 16, 1946, Amendment No. 31 to Land Use Ordinance No. 316, recently approved by the Planning Commission and the City Council,

was reconsidered at the request of the City Engineer and the Deputy City Attorney in order to avoid hardship to owners of property already zoned for business.

It was stated that the Planning Commission concurred in the recommendation that Amendment No. 31, as it concerns Commercial Zones, should apply and be enforced only to those portions of land hereafter re-zoned either by Variance or Change of Zone to Commercial use, after the date of this Amendment.

It was further advised that a letter had been received from the Chamber of Commerce advising that the Chamber Board of Directors had considered and concurred in this recommendation.

Mr. Jain advised that it was the recommendation of the Planning Commission that the City Council approve the recommended revision of Amendment No. 31 and instruct the City Attorney to prepare and publish the Amending Ordinance in conformity therewith.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation of the Planning Commission be accepted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Robert L. Lewellen, Captain, Co. H 2nd Bn. 39th Regiment, California State Guard, requesting that the Company be allowed continued use of the Municipal Park Monday nights for drill practice, rather than being compelled to disrupt drill procedure by giving up Monday nights to accommodate local baseball games, although it was mentioned that the Company is willing to give up Monday nights during the Baseball Tournament.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the matter be referred to Mr. Dale Riley, Superintendent of the Recreation Department, for decision and notification of the Company as to whether or not the request may be granted, without necessity for further action by the City Council. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication from the City of Los Angeles, Board of Public Works, addressed to Engineer Glenn M. Jain, was read, advising that the Board of Public Works had adopted a report of the Director of the Bureau of Right of Way and Land, advising that the cost to said Bureau for acquiring the necessary right of way for the opening and widening of Western Avenue from 182nd Street to 260th Street is \$2615.00. Matter of record.

A communication addressed to City Engineer Jain was read from the Los Angeles City Board of Education, calling attention to the unsatisfactory drainage condition at the Torrance Elementary School site, and requesting that the matter be remedied by improvements along Plaza del Amo or as may be required to prevent the storm water from flowing onto the school site, adding that the condition has been created largely by the development of the Navy Project south westerly of Plaza del Amo, and due to lack of facilities for drainage therefrom.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred to Engineer Jain for detailed study of the condition and for a recommendation to the City Council of the means of remedying the condition. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented two copies of the Agreement between the City of Torrance and the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles for parking a school bus in the City Yard, effective May 7, 1946, for renewal, present contract being due to expire May 6, 1946.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign the agreement as requested. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented three copies of an agreement between the City of Torrance and the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles covering transportation of Nathaniel Narbonne High School pupils residing in the WALTERIA area from that area to the inter-



section of Narbonne Avenue and Highway 101 in Lomita, at the rate of \$1.50 per day, effective September 16, 1946, for the school year 1946-47, which represents a renewal contract.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Mayor be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, enclosing a resolution adopted by the Board on April 16, 1946 relinquishing jurisdiction of the County of Los Angeles over a portion of Illinois Street within the City of Torrance, declaring said street to be no longer a part of the County system of Highways. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Earl A. Smythe and O. E. Goodwin, 1037 North Avalon Blvd., Wilmington, advising of their plans to construct 40 homes in Tract 7519 at a cost of less than \$6,000.00 each. It was advised that the prospective purchasers have been met by the writers and are good, average substantial citizens who are anxious to purchase homes, but who do not have means to purchase more expensive homes. It was advised that the houses will be built under city inspections, rigid building and loan association inspections, and will prove that homes can be well built, even though small, under the \$6,000.00 figure.

Attention was called to the condition of two tumbled down concrete or adobe buildings on Park Street, mentioning that, since there will be fifty or more children in these homes, the structures are a very real hazard.

Engineer Jain said he knows about the condition of the two dilapidated structures mentioned, and that he had endeavored twice to serve the owner with a notice relative to same, but had met with no success in either attempt. He agreed that the structures present a hazard to children who may enter them.

Attorney McCall advised that the owner or owners of the buildings can be served by publication if necessary in connection with a condemnation proceedings, or, he said, he knows of an excellent process server who will exhaust every means of locating the owner and serving them with notice.

Councilman Tolson moved that Engineer Jain be authorized to take whatever steps necessary to eliminate the hazard existing in the form of two old dilapidated buildings located on Park Street; that Mr. Jain be given full authority to proceed in whatever manner he deems necessary in this matter. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett presented four copies of a uniform Agreement prepared by the County of Los Angeles Office of County Counsel covering services of the Regional Planning Commission, which was read at the April 10, 1946 Council meeting and referred to Attorney McCall for recommendation. Clerk Bartlett stated that Mr. McCall had approved the agreement as to form.

Councilman Tolson moved that the contract between the City of Torrance and the County of Los Angeles, covering services of The Regional Planning Commission, be properly executed by the Mayor on behalf of the City. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles Road Department, enclosing in quadruplicate a form of resolution in connection with the widening and improvement of Western Avenue through a portion of the City of Torrance, and requesting the Council to adopt same.

Clerk Bartlett assigned a number to the resolution and read title of same as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 1769

RESOLUTION GRANTING CONSENT AND JURIS-  
DICTION TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
TO WIDEN AND IMPROVE WESTERN AVENUE.

Councilman Powell moved that Resolution No. 1769 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to: .

RESOLUTION NO. 1770

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING  
THE EXECUTION OF QUITCLAIM DEED  
TO DAVID H. SCHUMACHER TO CERTAIN  
REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1770 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to: .

RESOLUTION NO. 1771

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING  
EMERGENCY EXPENDITURES.

Councilman Tolson moved that Resolution No. 1771 be adopted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell read a communication from the Chief of the Fire Department, J. E. McMaster, in which Chief McMaster recommended that three fire hydrants be installed in the new sector where a housing project is to soon start, the section being bounded on the north by Dominguez Street, on the East by Acacia Avenue, on the West by Crenshaw Boulevard and on the south by the Santa Fe Railroad. Chief McMaster also recommended that a fire hydrant be installed on the corner of Madrid Avenue and Dominguez Street.

Councilman Powell moved that the above two recommendations of the Chief of the Fire Department be approved. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell read a second communication from the Chief of the Fire Department, J. E. McMaster, in which Chief McMaster recommended that the old all-weather type hydrant at Washington Avenue and the Santa Fe Railroad track be removed and that a Jones hydrant be installed 510 feet east on Washington Avenue to the corner of the alley between Apple Avenue and Arlington Avenue.

Chief McMaster also recommended that the old all-weather type hydrant on Lincoln Avenue be removed, and that a Jones hydrant be installed 220 feet east to the corner of Apple Avenue and Lincoln Avenue.

Councilman Powell moved that the above two recommendations of Chief McMaster be accepted. Councilman Tolson seconded the

motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that the employment of Donald Hitchcock be authorized, on a temporary basis, for clerical work in the City Clerk's Office, assisting the City Attorney in checking of franchise ordinances, indexing of legal instruments and other incidental work, at a salary of \$185.00 per month, effective April 4, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that William Dymond be employed on a temporary basis, as a laborer, Street Department, at a salary of \$205.00 per month. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Engineer Jain, an appropriation of \$105.00 be made for a new motor for Ford Truck No. 9, Street Department, and that an appropriation of not to exceed \$1400.00 be made for a steel dump body and hydraulic hoist for the new Army Truck recently purchased for the Street Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Engineer Jain, an appropriation of \$100.45, plus tax, be made for parts for Truck No. 4, Street Department, parts including cylinder assembly, gaskets, points and plug wires. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that Mr. Bob Haggard, a member of the Torrance Realty Board, be appointed to membership on the City Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of J. Hugh Sherfey, resigned, fulfilling a recent promise made to the Realty Board that a member of that Board would be appointed to membership on the Planning Commission when a vacancy occurred. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$96.29 be made for parts for stock for the Bus Department Garage, consisting of bearings, gears, retainer, nuts and gaskets, itemized list of which had been presented by the Shop Foreman. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$91.62, plus tax, be made for 4 sets brake lining for stock for the Bus Department Garage. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$65.00 be made to repair, re-sew and re-cover, partially, thirteen cushions, Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that an appropriation of \$125.30 be made for purchase of four batteries for the Bus Department. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that the employment of Henry Kressin as a bus operator be authorized, on a temporary basis, at a salary of \$220.00 per month, effective April 10, 1946, replacing George J. Garcia, resigned. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that the employment of J. W. Crowther as a Bus Attendant, on a temporary basis, be authorized, at a salary of \$225.00 per month, effective March 16, 1946. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Tolson moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Mr. C. Z. Ward, Manager, Municipal Bus Lines, the change in classification of John G. Cox from the position of Bus Attendant to that of Mechanic, Grade B, be authorized, effective April 16, 1946 at a salary of \$245.00 per month. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that, in compliance with a recommendation of Mr. Dale Riley, Superintendent of the Recreation Department, free lights be granted for all league baseball games played at the Municipal Ball Park by the Torrance Industrial Softball League, where there is no admission charge to the public.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation be concurred in. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the wages of Vivian Callihan, Recreation Department employee, be increased to \$1.00 per hour, effective April 1, 1946. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Gilbert read a communication from Engineer Jain, in which it was recommended that the City place an order for a mower for the Park Department, cost of which will be approximately \$800.00, for delivery when available and payment of which can be made from the 1946-47 fiscal year budget.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation be approved and the City Engineer be authorized to place an order for the mower as above-mentioned. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$60.00 be made to help defray expenses of the Annual Dinner Meeting of The Harbor District Chambers of Commerce, held at the Civic Auditorium April 11, 1946. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Upon recommendation of Engineer Jain, Councilman Tolson moved that the City of Torrance Planning Commission be authorized to be-



come a member of the Los Angeles County Planning Congress, and that an appropriation of \$10.00 be made to cover annual fees for same. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Upon recommendation of Attorney McCall, Councilman Powell moved that a condemnation title search be ordered for the property known as the "Fern Avenue Annex" on Fern Avenue adjacent to the elementary school, which the City proposes to use for Recreation purposes, and that the necessary funds for the title search be authorized. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney McCall expressed a desire to resign from his position as a member of the City Planning Commission, advising that there is need on the Commission for the services of one legal adviser only, and since Deputy City Attorney Willett is also serving, he felt justified in submitting his resignation.

Engineer Jain advised that the Planning Commission, according to law, must be comprised of three members of the official city administration and six laymen.

Attorney McCall replied that any member of the City Council can serve on the Commission as one of the required three, or, he said, Mr. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department, could serve and would undoubtedly contribute much to this work because of his broad understanding of the problems confronted by the Planning Commission.

In reply to Attorney McCall's statement that any member of the Council can serve on the Board, Mayor Sherfey said he had submitted his resignation specifically because he had thought he could not serve in both capacities, whereupon Attorney McCall pointed out that the chairman of the Commission, Mr. Tom McGuire, had served as Mayor and chairman of the Planning Commission concurrently, and has remained as chairman.

Mr. McGuire was asked for an opinion relative to Mr. McCall's verbal resignation, at which time he submitted that, if Mr. McCall feels that the work places too much demand on his time and energies, he may tender his resignation in writing after rendering a legal opinion on the question of "what constitutes an airport".

Attorney McCall said he would have the opinion ready for the May 7, 1946 Planning Commission meeting.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Plomert asked what decision had been reached by the Council in connection with the compiling of a current city directory, this matter having been brought to the attention of the Council by the Chamber of Commerce recently.

Mayor Sherfey stated that this is one of the matters which has not come to his attention as yet, this being his first meeting, and committees having only been appointed tonight, but said that he heartily endorsed the plan of having a survey of the population of the City made and a new directory compiled.

Mr. Blaine Walker, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Western Directory Company, who have agreed to do the work, are not too anxious to compile the directory for the nominal sum of \$300.00, which figure they submitted recently, and urged that, if the City expects to get the work done for this sum, prompt action be taken before the directory concern decides against acceptance of the job on this basis.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$300.00 be made for the compiling of a 1946 city directory, work to be done by the Western Directory Company. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

